

Nov 1907

STUDENTS' MEETINGS.

A meeting of students was held in the York Tea Rooms on November 2nd, to discuss the working of "L'Umile Pianta." There were present:—Miss Gray, Miss Rankin, Miss Bernau, Miss M. Conder, Miss Moule, Miss Penne-thorne, Miss Dismorr, Miss Wix, Miss Brownell, Miss MacSheey.

It was decided to continue the monthly publication of "L'Umile Pianta"—at least until Easter—at the present size, but if funds do not permit of this next year, the issue must be bi-monthly, or strictly limited to eight pages. There will in no case be any publication in the holiday months of December, August, and September.

A telegram was received from a Branch meeting which ran as follows:

"Best wishes for monthly 'Plant.'"

Nora Craddock, Marion Flower, Edith and Ruby Williams, Ida Fischer.

A letter suggesting organised Branch meetings was received from the Liverpool district, and the meeting decided to ask the following to act as secretaries for their districts, and to collect and organize one meeting per quarter. Will the undermentioned kindly send the Editor a post card saying whether or no they will undertake to act as secretaries *before January 1st.*

For Reigate, &c. F. Judd.

For Liverpool, &c. ... F. Armitage.

For Norfolk, &c. M. Mahony.

For Brighton, &c. ... B. Goode.

A discussion was subsequently held on the value of graphs in teaching Arithmetic. Opinions on this point are urgently needed. Please write your views on a post card, and send them to the Editor for the next issue.

NOTICE.

Students' Meetings will be held as usual in the York Rooms on Saturday, December 7th, and on the first Saturday in February, 1908.

WHERE TO LIVE.

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TERMS.

Earls Court, S.W....	Rudyard House, 52 Longridge Road	Full board from 21s. ; partial For ladies only. board, 19s. 6d.
London, W.....	Mrs. Hargreaves, 35 Dorset Square	From 18gns. per term ; shorter For lady students and working gentle- periods by arrangement women.
London, W.	St. Mary's Hostel, 30, 32, 34, Warrington	21s. to 42s. per week For ladies from 18 to 30 years of age.
London, W.	New Hall, 21 Lexham Gardens. Principal, Miss Evelyn Villiers	18 to 31 guineas per term ; Accommodation for about 25 lady shorter periods by arrange- students. ment
London, W.	223 Elgin Avenue	From 16s. weekly..... For gentlemen.
Chelsea, S.W. . . .	Cheyne Club, 11 Oakley Street	18s. 6d. to 28s. weekly For ladies only.
London, W.C.	69 Gower Street	From 15s. 6d. (cubicles and Working gentlemen. private rooms
Southport	42 Park Road	10s. to 12s. weekly For ladies whose income does not exceed £60 per annum.
Southsea.....	St. Helen's House, Granada Road	18s. to 30s. per week For gentlemen.
London, W.	4 and 5 Bulstrode Street, Welbeck Street.	From 16s. 6d. (cubicles and For working gentlemen. private rooms).
London, E.C.....	St. Monica's Hostel, 19 Brook St., E.C....	Rooms from 13s..... Accommodation for 22 lady students, &c., 16 to 30 years of age.
Brighton.....	60 York Road. Miss Forde.....	Ladies from 17s. 6d. ; gentle- men, 25s.
London, W.	The Wortley Hostel, 22 Upper West- bourne Terrace, Paddington	For ladies as temporary boarders.
Earl's Court	17 Fopstone Road, S.W.	Partial board from 21s. ; full Working gentlemen. board, 25s.

L' UMILE PIANTA.

WHERE TO LIVE—CONTINUED.

Ealing, W.....	27 Sandringham Gardens. Mrs. Wallis... 18s. to 25s. per week	For 6 ladies (musical students.)
London, W.C.	23 Mecklenburgh Square. Mrs. Wright... From 21s.	For lady students, &c.
London, S.W.....	St. George's Hostel, 77 and 79 Gloucester Street, Warwick Square	12s. 6d. to 25s. weekly Accommodation for 30 gentlemen.
Folkestone	Canterbury House	15s. 6d. to 25s..... For women workers and ladies of limited means.
Brighton.....	29 College Road, Sister	Board from 21s..... Ladies only.
Maida Vale, W.....	Ladies' Temperance Hostel, Brunswick House, Clifton Gardens	16s. to 25s. weekly ; partial Working gentlemen. board from 13s. 6d.
London, W.	94A Great Portland Street.....	15s. 6d. and 18s. 6d. per Comfortable home for gentlemen ; week (cubicles) central position.
London, S. W.	Marquess Villa, 13 Gauden Road, Clapham	Partial board from 21s. ; full For gentlemen. board from 30s. a week.
London, N.W.	Ashley House, 12 Endsleigh Gardens	10s. 6d. to 17s. weekly For women workers.
Folkestone	St. Gabriel's House of Rest	18s. 6d. to 42s. weekly For gentlemen.
Brighton.....	St. Saviour's and St. Mary's Home of Rest, St. Luke's Road, Queen's Park	12s. 6d. to 25s. weekly For women and girl workers and ladies of limited means.
Paris	Miss Bligh, 15 Rue Pierre Churron	6frs. per day For ladies.
Paris	Y.W.C.A. Hostel, 93 Bd. St. Michel.....	20frs. to 40frs. per week For young women.

L' UMILE PIANTA.

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P.R.S. NOTES.

PICTURE TALKS.—This is the favourite lesson of a class of little ones, in which Class II. and Ia take it together. The Giotto's of last term were unfailing in their delight. Curiously, to the teacher, the favourite was the "Marriage of St. Francis and Holy Poverty." Next came "St. Peter on the Sea" (principally for the fisherman). Then the "Madonna," which was the first of the series taken—they so loved the angels, and the bare toes of the Bambino. An added lesson was given on Giotto's tower, and they were shown pictures of the octagonal carvings. The "Dwellers in Tents" fascinated them, especially the dog. In taking the lesson, first there was the story of Giotto, the shepherd boy, in which Jan of the windmill greatly helped the teacher, and also the view of bare hill side from the school-room window. Then the picture was given, and looked at for three minutes in silence. It is not until perhaps the third lesson that a child new to the work will look at a picture for three minutes. Then they were turned face downwards on the desk, and the children gave descriptions—said what was there and what was meant by it. Then when a really good account had been given, and everyone's memory exhausted, they were turned over again, and the teacher explained or filled in, drew attention to details, coloured the dresses and the masts of St. Peter's ship, or the Madonna's blue robe. Then each child drew from the picture a detail, copied it—a flower, a cornice, a halo, an arch—chosen by himself. Such quaint things were chosen sometimes. Then again these were drawn from memory. Finally, the picture was pasted into a brown paper book made on purpose, a picture to a page, and the school one hung up on a brown paper sheet that was pinned up ready.

This term will not be so easy, but the Infant Samuel has been taken with much interest. The children are quite decided that is a bed he kneels beside, of which the leg shows—an entirely new idea to the teacher.

We have a sheet of cardboard about 2ft. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. covered with green serge hanging in the hall. On this, everybody in the house pins items of interest, either cut out of the paper, or copied out of a book, a photograph, a drawing or something original, just what anybody likes; to be changed as often as possible.

The children take a great interest in it, and the items prove a help to conversation as well as mental growth.

E. E. F.

ARITHMETIC.—Children not in P.R.S. The children (aged 6 and 7) have been having exercises for some time in the results of adding different numbers, *i.e.*, $7 + 3 = 10$, $5 + 3 = 8$, $9 + 4 = 13$, using counters until they knew these results by heart. They can now add a list of figures fairly quickly. They also have exercises in mental arithmetic such as "5, add 3, add 2, add 7, add 3, add 5, take away 6, take away 9, find the half of what is left."

In sums they are doing "bills," simple examples of addition of money: sometimes they play at "shop" with bills. They are learning tables, but have not yet begun multiplication.

B. M. DISMORR.

ON LEARNING POETRY.—In order to overcome hesitation between verses of poetry, and the uninterested sing-song voice so many children seem to keep for recitation purposes, I have tried making my pupil (a girl of 11) read her whole poem right through *every* day. At the end of about three weeks she was able to say the whole of the "Vision of Monk Felix," from the "Golden Legend," without a falter, and with good intonation. And I have since tried it several times with success. If the child cannot even read the verses well, then one might read them to him until he has caught the spirit of the piece. The great thing is *never let a day pass* without the whole piece being read. Even a long poem takes surprisingly few minutes to read, so that one does not lose any appreciable time out of the morning's work.

Extract from the catalogue of an Educational Emporium :
"Wooden Teachers' Demsnstration Tray, 24 by 18in., price
5s. od. . . . This is truly Froebelian."
Query: which? The wooden teacher? or the price?

THE WOODEN TEACHER.

Why does the Teacher stiffly stand
Before her waiting class?
Nor raises on the shining sand
The mountains rugged mass?
Will she not from her calm unbend?
She can't! she's made of wood.

Why does the Teacher limply hold
The pliant plasticine?
The class, with many a pinch and fold,
Try to produce a bean!
Will she not guide their willing hands?
She can't! she's made of wood!

Why does the Teacher strangely pose,
During the hour of drill?
The children, balanced on their toes,
Fling arms and legs, and can't keep still.
Will she not leave her posture strange?
She can't! she's made of wood!

MORAL. When jaded with the daily fray,
For sofa soft you yearn;
Vain gleams November's wet array,
To fireside bright you turn.
Arts, Crafts, and Books, are all your foes,
You only want to warm your toes.
Go out and skip with all your might,
To prove you are not wooden quite!

E. C. A.